

**AMENDMENT After Final
Patent Application Serial No. 09/698,558**

Attorney Docket No.: Case 6103

REMARKS

Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for lacking a proper antecedent basis. Examiner advised that claims 2, 3, and 13 would be allowable if rewritten to provide proper antecedent basis for 'the integral snubber' limitation in claim 2, line 2 and claim 13, line 2-3.

Examiner remarked the "at least one integral snubber" limitation of independent claims 1 and 13 does not provide proper antecedent basis for "the integral snubber" limitation of dependent claims 2, 3, and 13, because as written there may be more than one snubber and it is not clear which one "the integral snubber" is being referred to.

In line 2 of claim 1, applicants have amended the term "the integral snubber" to read "a integral snubber". Applicants believe this amendment alleviates any unclarity regarding which snubber is being referred to in the event multiple snubbers are utilized. For example in an embodiment of the present invention utilizing more than one snubber, claim two only requires one of the 'at least one integral snubbers' of independent claim 1 to be oriented at an angle α with respect to a radial line originating at a center of the grinding ring, angle α having a value within a range of approximately 15 degrees to approximately 65 degrees.

Similarly, the present amendment provides claim 3 with proper antecedent basis , by virtue of it dependence of upon claim 2.

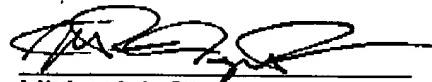
Applicants have further amended the term 'the integral snubber' claim 13 to read "a integral snubber". For the same reasons expressed above, Applicants believe this amendment alleviates examiners rejection for improper antecedent basis and further clarifies claim 13.

**AMENDMENT After Final
Patent Application Serial No. 09/698,558**

Attorney Docket No.: Case 6103

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the present application is believe to be in condition for allowance. If Examiner believes, after consideration of this response, that further amendment to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection is necessary; Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (330) 860-6605.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Seymour
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 54,436

Date: September 29, 2004
The Babcock & Wilcox Company
Patent Department
P.O. Box 351
20 South Van Buren Avenue
Barberton, Ohio 44203
Tel.: (330) 860-6605
Fax: (330) 860-6609